

**Time Critical Diagnosis-Stroke and STEMI System Implementation
For Discussion 5/12/09**

Emergency Inter-Facility Transfer Protocol

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines regarding emergency transfers of stroke and STEMI patients.

POLICY

1. EMS agencies will treat stroke and STEMI patients being transferred from one hospital to another for immediate treatment by a stroke or STEMI center as an emergency transfer and immediately send the closest unit available.

PROCEDURE

1. When a request for an emergency transfer of a stroke or STEMI patient comes in to the Dispatch center, the call taker shall ask the caller if the patient is ready for pick-up at the time of request for transport (including paperwork completed and copied).
2. The closest unit shall be dispatched immediately.
3. EMS units shall respond to the originating facility without the use of emergency lights and siren unless they are specifically requested.
4. A paramedic/ALS provider shall be in attendance with the patient. If a paramedic/ALS provider is not available, a licensed registered nurse or physician shall accompany the patient. In the event a patient develops an unmanageable life-threatening situation while enroute, contact the closest hospital and obtain orders and/or authorization to divert to that facility.
5. The EMS unit shall contact the receiving hospital and advise them of the estimated arrival time.